



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Malheur
National
Forest

P.O. Box 909
John Day, OR 97845
(541) 575-3000
Fax (541) 575-3001
TDD (541) 575-3089

File Code: 1950

Date: April 4, 2011

Dear Interested Public:

On March 31, 2006 the Malheur National Forest published a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a project to treat invasive plants located across the 1.7 million acre National Forest. Since that time, the Forest has updated the invasive plant inventory and the proposed action. The corrected NOI for this project is expected to be published in the Federal Register on April 5, 2011. The updated proposed action will now include a site specific, non-significant forest plan amendment to include the use of a new herbicide (aminopyralid – common name of Milestone TM).

I have enclosed the updated Proposed Action for this project. Similar to the 2006 proposed action, the Forest is not planning aerial herbicide applications nor any treatments in wilderness areas. Planned treatment of invasive plants will include chemical (herbicide and adjuvants), physical (mechanical and manual), and biological controls. These treatments will be used on existing infestations (approximately 2,290 acres) or new infestations, including new plant species that currently are not found on the Forest. Treatment could be anywhere on Forest Service lands including rangelands, timber harvest areas, along roads and road rights-of-way, along trail routes and dispersed and developed recreation sites and on other disturbed sites (i.e. fires, flood events, and rock sources) where invasive plants are located.

Instructions for making comments:

I want to be aware of and responsive to, any issues, comments or concerns you may have specific to this project. Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, oral and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted until **May 5, 2011**. Written comments should be submitted to: Teresa Raaf, Forest Supervisor, Malheur National Forest, P.O. Box 909, John Day OR 97845. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are: 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Comments can be faxed to 541-575-3013.



Electronic comments should be submitted as part of the actual e-mail or as an attachment in Microsoft Word, rich text format, or portable document format only and sent to comments-pacificnorthwest-malheur@fs.fed.us. The proposed action, along with a map showing existing locations of inventoried invasive plants locations, is also available on the Malheur National Forest web page at www.fs.fed.us/r6/malheur/land&resourcemanagent/projects/.

Scoping comments sent in response to the 2006 NOI do not need to be re-sent; new comments are also welcomed.

Sincerely,



TERESA RAAF
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure